

# INFORMATION LETTER

Not for  
Publication

NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION

For Members  
Only

No. 1383

Washington, D. C.

April 19, 1952

## N.C.A. Board Plans Discussion Of Government Control Programs

The spring meeting of the Board of Directors and Administrative Council will be held in Washington, Monday, May 19, and Tuesday, May 20. The Council will meet at N.C.A. headquarters the morning of May 19. The Board sessions will start with a luncheon that day at the Hotel Statler and will continue with a second session Tuesday morning.

President Heinz, Secretary Campbell, and members of the staff were working this week on the agenda for these meetings, which will include current government control programs, particularly the status of N.C.A. efforts in the direction of price suspension, along with other active Association problems. Speakers on these matters are being booked now. Details of the agenda will be announced on completion.

Following is a tentative schedule of these meetings including N.C.A. committees that are being called:

- Sunday morning, May 18—Labeling Committee
- Sunday afternoon, May 18—Convention Committee; Retirement Plan Trustees
- Sunday evening, May 18—Public Relations (dinner meeting)
- Monday morning, May 19—Administrative Council; Raw Products Committee
- Monday afternoon, May 19—Board of Directors
- Tuesday morning, May 20—Board of Directors
- Tuesday evening, May 20—Special dinner for State Secretaries
- Wednesday morning, May 21—Washington Laboratory Advisory Committee

It is planned to publish a schedule of the exact times and places of the various sessions in next week's INFORMATION LETTER.

Hotel reservations for those who will attend the spring meeting should be made promptly, and if it is desired that the Association obtain them for you, the request should be addressed to Miss Helen Tate, N.C.A., 1133 20th Street, N.W., Washington 6, D. C. The hotel has requested that all reservations be in by May 10.

## GOR 10, Relief in Pricing

Manufacturers operating at an overall loss because of decreased volume of production below normal economical capacity may apply for upward adjustment of ceiling prices, under terms of Amendment 4 to GOR 10, effective April 19.

GOR 10 permits manufacturers to apply for an upward adjustment of ceilings under any OPS regulation if, as a result of these ceilings, the manufacturer would be forced to operate at a loss (see INFORMATION LETTERS of May 19, 1951, page 208, and June 16, 1951, page 235).

Amendment 14 eliminates the requirement that adjustment of ceilings cannot be based on a reduction in volume below the normal economical capacity of a manufacturer's plant.

GOR 10 also is amended to make it clear that adjusted ceiling prices which a manufacturer applies for must not be out of line with ceilings established for other sellers.

Applications under GOR 10 by manufacturers whose annual volume is \$250,000 or less are to be filed with OPS district offices for the district in which the principal place of business is located. Manufacturers whose annual volume is more than \$250,000 must file applications with OPS in Washington.

## Defense Production Act

The Senate Committee on Banking and Currency will meet in executive session April 22 to hear the views of the top four stabilization chiefs—John R. Steelman, Roger Putnam, Ellis Arnall, and Nathan P. Feinsinger—on extension of the Defense Production Act.

## Maximum for Canned Foods Set in Freight Rate Increases

A general increase of 15 percent in basic railroad freight rates has been approved by the Interstate Commerce Commission. The increased rates on carload shipments of canned foods are subject to a maximum of 12 cents per 100 pounds.

The new rates will become effective May 2. This authorization supersedes prior authorizations of interim rate increases.

The maximum increase of 12 cents per 100 pounds applies to carload shipments of "canned or preserved food products (not cold pack or frozen), in packages, as described or referred to in item 60 of Tariff X-175-A, as amended."

The 15 percent increase also is subject to maxima of 12 cents per 100 pounds on carloads of fresh fruits, including citrus, and vegetables; and 10 cents per 100 pounds on carloads of sugar.

Minimum charges for shipping less-than-carload lots and other minimum car charges may be increased 15 percent. No increase was authorized on charges for protective services.

This is the twelfth general increase which has been allowed the railroads

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## Unlimited Use of Cans Still under Study by NPA

A proposal to free blackplate from control, thus allowing its unlimited use in all consumer products, is being considered by the National Production Authority at the suggestion of its Tin Plate Industry Advisory Committee.

Under a proposed amendment to the can order, M-25, blackplate could be used without limit in cans but would remain under control for other consumer products. Industry members have declared that blackplate is in plentiful supply and have questioned the need for any controls.

NPA officials said that an order taking control off most secondary tin

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## DEFENSE

### Industry-by-Industry Summary Of Certificates of Necessity

An industry-by-industry summary of the facilities expansion program directed by the Defense Production Administration, released April 8, shows that emphasis in granting certificates of necessity for accelerated tax amortization continues on "basic programs directly related to the defense effort and the productive base of the economy."

The basic materials—including iron and steel, chemicals, petroleum, non-

ferrous metals and nonferrous mining, pulp and paper, iron ore mining and coal and coke—account for 53.3 percent of the total dollar volume of certificates approved by DPA. If transportation and power are added, the total percentage accounted for is 80.2 percent.

DPA reported that by February 25, 1952, applications approved for rapid tax write-off had aggregated 7,188, representing a total proposed investment of approximately \$14,579,094,000. These figures include approximately 174 approved certificates where the amounts of amortization had not yet been determined by DPA.

Following is a tabulation of certificates of necessity approved through February 25 for food industry groups:

	No.	Proposed investment (in thousands of dollars)	Tax amortization allowed	T. A. allowed as a percentage of proposed investment (percent)
Canned fruits, vegetables, and soups, preserves, jams and jellies.....	30	6,042	2,060	34.6
Canned sea food.....	..	..	..	..
Pickled fruits and vegetables, vegetable sauces and seasonings, salad dressing.....	1	313	60	22.0
Frozen fruits, vegetables, sea foods.....	1	222	56	25.2
Dried and dehydrated fruits and vegetables.....	2	491	347	70.7
Condensed and evaporated milk.....	1	288	144	30.0

In addition, as of February 25, DPA reported that 6,196 applications representing a total investment of \$9,826,148,000 were still pending.

This includes 12 applications proposing total investment of \$2,005,000

for expansion in the canned fruit and vegetable category, and 4 applications proposing total investment of \$2,506,000 for production of canned sea food.

### Canned Artichoke Products

Canned artichoke products whose vegetable ingredient consists principally of artichokes or parts thereof have been exempted from price control by Amendment 15 to GOR 7, issued and effective April 11.

### Unlimited Use of Cans

(Concluded from page 155)

mill products probably would be issued soon.

NPA also is considering an industry proposal to permit unlimited use of cans for packing all foods (see INFORMATION LETTER of March 29, page 135).

NPA's Tin Mill Products Section has recommended that third quarter program determination for cans under M-25 be established at 1,000,000 tons of production plate, an increase of 50,000 tons over an earlier determination for that quarter.

### Freight Rate Increase

(Concluded from page 155)

by the ICC since the cessation of hostilities of World War II.

The authorizations sought by the railroads, if granted, were estimated by them to increase freight revenue by approximately \$678,000,000, if applied to the traffic expected in 1952, compared with revenue at current rates. The U. S. Department of Commerce independently estimated the increase sought as \$704,000,000.

In the ICC report on the rate increase, known as *Ex Parte* No. 175, it is stated that a witness representing the Secretary of Agriculture estimated that in 1951 the cost to consumers of food produced domestically was \$40.5 billions, of which farmers received \$20.4 billions, \$2.7 billions was the cost of for-hire transportation, and \$17.4 billions represented other marketing costs.

### Flood Disaster Relief

Prompt aid in obtaining materials and equipment for reconstruction and repair of homes, stores, and factories in the flood disaster areas was announced April 17 by the National Production Authority.

Direction 2 to CMP Reg. 6 was amended to authorize owners of buildings in the distressed areas to obtain more materials by self-authorization than are usually allowed for most types of buildings.

The amended regulation provides for the use of the allotment number "X4" on delivery orders for controlled materials and the rating "DO-X4" on delivery orders for building equipment, building materials other than controlled materials, production machinery and production equipment required as the result of flood damage.

The limits placed on the use of such orders and ratings to repair or replace non-residential property are 25 tons of steel, 2,000 pounds of copper, and 1,000 pounds of aluminum.

Local offices of the U. S. Department of Commerce will be headquarters for assistance for the Missouri Valley area.

## TRAFFIC

### Freight Car Expansion Goal

A freight car expansion goal to provide 436,000 new freight cars by July 1, 1954, was approved this week by the Defense Production Administration.

The goal includes freight cars built since January 1, 1950. Of the 436,000-car goal, 140,000 cars were built by January 1, 1952, and 296,000 remain to be built by mid-1954.

Achievement of the freight car expansion program will provide U. S. railroads with a total fleet of 2,167,000 cars, DPA said. The Class I railroads will own 1,867,000 cars and the remainder will be owned by private line car companies and other railroads.

The freight car program will care for the buildup of rail traffic forecast for 1954 under conditions of partial mobilization, DPA said, but is not sufficient to meet the demands of full mobilization.

## PERSONNEL

### Valders Firm Elects Officers

The board of directors of the Valders Canning Company, Valders, Wis., has elected Norbert W. Christel to be president of the firm, Frank Heimerl to be vice president, and Max R. Pankrat secretary, treasurer, and general manager.

## STATISTICS

### Canned Meat Report

The quantity of meat canned and meat products processed under federal inspection during the four-week period March 2-29 has been reported by the Bureau of Animal Industry, USDA. However, this report represents only the supply of meat products canned during that period and available for civilian consumption. Total production, including quantities for defense agencies, was 162,598 thousand pounds.

Canned Meat and Meat Products Processed under Federal Inspection  
March 2-29, 1952

	3 Lbs. Under & over 3 Lbs.	Total
(in thousands of pounds)		
Luncheon meat.....	17,704	27,914
Canned hams.....	18,548	18,986
Corned beef hash.....	220	2,876
Chili con carne.....	549	5,148
Vienna sausage.....	103	4,007
Frankfurters and weiners in brine.....	6	753
Deviled ham.....		510
Other potted and deviled meat products.....	4,552	4,552
Tamales.....	126	2,430
Sliced, dried beef.....	52	605
Liver products.....		136
Meat stew.....	58	6,641
Spaghetti meat products.....	133	2,778
Tongue (not pickled).....	30	220
Vinegar pickled products.....	1,121	3,034
Bulk sausage.....		845
Hamburger.....	8	922
Soups.....	2,246	51,607
Sausage in oil.....	186	751
Tripe.....	1	455
Brains.....		359
Bacon.....	66	172
All other products 20% or more meat.....	461	5,099
All other products less than 20% meat (except soup).....	108	12,273
Total all products...	41,725	153,259

Columns do not add to totals shown in all cases since rounded figures are used. Amounts packed for defense are not included in these items. Total production, including quantities for defense agencies, was 162,598 thousand pounds.

## Trends in Baby Food Packs

A graphic summary of pack trends and relationships in the canned baby food industry has been prepared by the N.C.A. Division of Statistics.

Charts show trends in the annual packs since 1930 with regard to tin and glass packs and between strained and chopped baby foods; the proportion of the 1951 pack in fruits, meat products, vegetables, and custards and puddings; and trends in the packs of these commodities since 1934.

Copies of the report have been mailed to canners of baby food. The N.C.A. Division of Statistics will mail copies to other canners upon request.

## LABOR

### 1952 Farm Labor Outlook

A smaller supply of farm labor and a further increase in farm wage rates are expected in 1952, according to a report by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics in *The Farm Cost Situation*. Farm wage rates for 1952 are expected to average 5 to 10 percent above last year.

BAE reports that there will be difficulty in obtaining enough seasonal workers in some local areas and that the supply of year-round workers will continue tight in many local areas.

Some further loss of farm workers to both industry and the armed forces is in prospect this year, according to BAE. Employment in defense industries may increase by more than 2,000,000 in 1952. Part of this increase will come from normal growth of the labor force and part from drawing extra workers into the labor force. The rest will come chiefly through shifts from other industries, including agriculture.

Although the armed forces have reached their authorized strength of 3.5 million, and there will be little net change in inductions from farms, there will be movements into and out of the armed forces, and many farmers will still face the problem of replacing workers who may be drafted.

Workers from Mexico, Puerto Rico, the Caribbean Islands, and Canada again will be employed to supplement local supplies of seasonal workers in many areas.

## PUBLICITY

### House Beautiful Magazine

Baby foods are featured in the article "The Latest Time-Saving Staple on the Pantry Shelf" in the April *House Beautiful* magazine.

The author, Adeline Linton, begins the article: "You have probably discovered how processed foods save you hours of tedious repetitious work in the kitchen. But the chances are you have passed over processed baby food as mere pap for the high-chair set. Yet, used imaginatively or in combination with other foods, it opens up a whole realm of cookery that can be not only adult but gourmet in caliber. In fact, baby foods are so useful in so many different ways that you'll probably make them 'stock' items on your staple shelf, once you've experimented with them."

She goes on to say: "Anyone who likes to make purees, souffles, canape tidbits, and other dishes which require fussy preparation will find these foods ready-prepared for many of their favorite recipes." Thirteen recipes and many suggestions are given for using the strained and chopped foods.

### Woman's Day Magazine

"Open a Can of Peaches," by Valrie M. Geier, is an article in the April issue of *Woman's Day* magazine. Five dessert recipes using canned peaches are featured.

The author says, "Fancy desserts take resourcefulness and more effort than often can be spent on just one course of a meal. Next time you find yourself without a dessert thought in your head and not much time to spare, lift a can of peaches from the shelf."

## STANDARDS

### U. S. Standards for Currants and Raspberries for Processing

U. S. standards for currants for processing and for raspberries for processing were issued April 16 by the Production and Marketing Administration, USDA.

Text of the standards for currants and those for raspberries were published in the *Federal Register* of April 18.



## LABELING

### Changes in Labeling Manual

Copies of a new improved sample label for insertion in the N.C.A. labeling manual, *Modern Labels for Canned Foods*, were mailed to canners this week by the Labeling Research Division. The new sample label is to be inserted in the manual as a substitute for page 270.

The sample label has been approved by the Food and Drug Administration. Thus, canners and other owners of private brand labels may use the "Information Panel," which is 20 percent of the total label space (to the right of the main or display panel) for both mandatory and voluntary descriptive labeling terms, provided the mandatory terms remain clear and conspicuous.

This arrangement of labeling information leaves the main or display panel available for the name of the product, brand name, vignette, and any desired decoration.

The new manual page is part of the labeling service which is available to holders of the N.C.A. labeling manual. It is requested that canners advise the Labeling Research Division of the name of the person who will use the manual regularly in each firm's work.

## DEATH

### Ralph Polk, Sr.

Ralph Polk, Sr., veteran Florida citrus canner who started putting up citrus juice in bottles in 1919, died of a heart attack in Greenwood, Ind., April 17.

Born in Greenwood, Ind., in 1875, Mr. Polk became prominent in Indiana canning operations and was a pioneer in Florida citrus canning. His father, J. P. Polk, was founder of the first Indiana canning plant in 1871.

Ralph Polk was active in the group that developed the early policies and organization of the N.C.A. He served on the N.C.A. Executive Committee, 1917-19, on the Export Committee in 1919, and was a member of the Board of Directors for two terms, 1917-20 and 1921-24. He was author and executor of a special memorial in 1919

to the work of Nicholas Appert, the father of the canning industry.

In the early twenties, Mr. Polk became interested in the possibilities of canning Florida citrus and the Polk plant canned citrus sections in 1921. Thereafter, they were outstanding in the operation of citrus canning plants in Haines City and Tampa.

In recognition of Mr. Polk's pioneering, which helped give birth to the citrus canning industry, the Florida Canners Association extended to him an honorary life membership in 1948. He remained a member of both the N.C.A. and Florida association throughout his entire canning career.

## CONGRESS

### Trucks Hauling Perishables

The Senate Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce has concluded public hearings on a total of 45 bills to amend the Interstate Commerce Act, regulating railroad and truck shipping.

Among the 45 bills before the Committee are S. 2362 and S. 2357, which would prohibit farmers and fishermen from transporting any products other than perishable foods to market and would prohibit compensation for transporting other property (see INFORMATION LETTER of March 8, page 121).

The Committee has scheduled no further action on any of the 45 bills.

## FOREIGN TRADE

### Customs Drawback Procedures

New and simplified procedures for processing claims for drawback have been issued by the Bureau of the Customs.

"Drawback" is a refunding of customs duties collected on imported merchandise, the refund usually being made because of use of the merchandise in the manufacture of goods in the United States which subsequently are exported. Drawback may be claimed on the sugar content of canned foods that are exported.

The new regulations are expected to effect considerable reduction in paper work for both commercial interests and customs offices. Copies of the regulations may be obtained from local Collectors of Customs.

### Invitations for Bids

★ Quartermaster Purchasing Offices—111 East 16th Street, New York 3, N. Y.; 1819 West Pershing Road, Chicago 9, Ill.; Oakland Army Base, Oakland 14, Calif.

Veterans Administration—Procurement Division, Veterans Administration, Wash. 25, D. C.

The Walsh-Healey Public Contracts Act may apply to all operations performed after the date of notice of award if the total value of a contract is \$10,000 or over.

The QMC has invited sealed bids to furnish the following:

SHRIMP—36,050 5-oz. cans, f.o.b. destination. Bids due at New York under QM-30-280-52-1502 by April 22.

BEANS WITH PORK AND TOMATO SAUCE—22,666 dozen No. 2½ cans, f.o.b. destination. Bids due at Chicago under QM-11-009-52-1371 by April 30.

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